

# MINES & MINERS

## NEW METAL PROCESS.

The Stephens Metal Extraction company of Salida, Colo., is just now testing a new process for extracting values from ores. If this process can do what is claimed by its inventor it will revolutionize the established methods of mining. It is claimed that 97 per cent of the values can be saved in gold, silver and copper; that the solution used does not attack lead or wood, and vessels made of these materials can be used to hold the solution; that the values will be leached out in forty-five minutes and that the process costs from \$3 to \$4 per ton. This may prove either a big success or a big failure. The result of the practical test will be eagerly looked for.

F. M. J.  
Los Angeles, July 25, 1898.

On this same subject the Western Mining World says: "From Salida, Colo., comes the report that there are now being made in that city a series of experiments and demonstrations of a new process of treating ores. If the tests made can be carried out on a large scale, the industry of mining low grade ores will be speedily revolutionized. The process was discovered and patented by A. G. Stephen of Colorado Springs and has already attracted no little attention from prominent mine and mill men. There is as yet no mill in the state using the process, but it is expected that one will soon be located in the Whitehorn-Turret district."

The process is described as being similar to the cyanide but possessing many superior points. It is known as "The Non-roasting Metal Extraction Process." All the metals are extracted by the ore solution and the ore is never roasted, simply crushed. The pulp is put into vats, and the most refractory ore yet tested requires only an hour and fifteen minutes to extract all metal from the pulp. Some ore requires only thirty minutes, while the average is about forty-five minutes. Not only, says the Western Mining World, gold is thus taken from the ore, but silver, antimony, copper and sulphur. The presence of iron or copper does not hinder the extraction of gold, as in the case with the cyanide process which will not successfully treat ore that contains more than 3 or 4 per cent of iron or copper. Another point is that cyanide frequently requires twelve or fifteen hours to treat ores that by this process is reduced in one hour. The chemical used is six times stronger than cyanide, and costs to manufacture, even in small quantities, only 2 cents a gallon. From 50 to 80 cents' worth treats a ton of ore. The owners of this patent guarantee to save 97 per cent of the values contained at a cost of about \$2.50 to \$3 per ton. At that rate, with a mill advantageously located, \$8 ore can be mined at a good profit, while at present the cheapest process known requires that much for treatment. The same paper then says:

"The chemical has no effect on lead

or zinc. Wooden vats coated with lead paint are used, another element of cheapness. Tests further show that ores hardest to treat by the cyanide process are easiest treated by the Stephens process. In the Salida gold belt the ores abound in iron, copper and lime, so that the district is peculiarly adapted to this mode of treatment. Thomas Elder of that city, who has extensive mining interests on Camera mountain, has charge of the matter of locating a mill in the district and is pushing things as rapidly as possible. The district presents a splendid field as there are now a great many properties of ore that run from \$10 to \$20 per ton. Under present conditions ore from the district cannot be shipped and treated for less than about \$20 per ton, so it will readily be seen that the success of this new process means much to the district."—Los Angeles Review.

## ORE SAMPLING.

The Denver Mining Reporter says: "Will prospectors and miners and investors never learn that an assay don't furnish conclusive evidence of mine values? There is a popular saying just now about 'the man behind the gun.' Along this line the assay is the gun, and the man who does the sampling is the man behind the gun. Unfortunately, that fellow is very often incompetent to hit the mark, and not infrequently does not want to hit it."

## NUGGETS FROM THE HILLS.

John Maloney has gone to Oro Blanco on mining business from Nogales.

The face of the main workings of the Franco-American company at Oro Blanco is now in solid ore of splendid character. The company is doing considerable work and is much elated with the condition of the mine.

In an article in the Vidette recently on the Cajon mines we gave the name of Charles H. Gibson as foreman. When the fact is that Mr. Charles H. Gibson is superintendent and Mr. A. B. Gibson is general manager of the company. Both men are thorough mining men.—Border Vidette.

Robert Bartlett, the mining man, returned to Nogales Monday from Hermosillo where he went to denounce some mining claims. The stamp law down there caught him for over \$500 on one contract. Our war stamp isn't in it with Mexico's stamp law.

W. E. Pomeroy was up from Bonan-

ing near Santiago, Cuba, before the outbreak of the war, but which was compelled to close down by the opening of hostilities, has sent two representatives to Santiago to look over the situation with a view to starting work again. A large amount of the company's property was destroyed by the Spanish.

Dr. J. C. Underwood has just taken a bond on the Hidden Treasure mine on Lynx creek for himself and his partner, Jesse R. Grant. The property is owned by Judge N. L. Griffin and is a very promising one. Not only does it show up well as far as it has developed but it is located in a district which is booming at present. Within a quarter of a mile of the property there are three mills in active operation and two of the very latest improved new hoisting works. There is great activity throughout the district and good results are reported from all the properties that are being worked. Messrs. Underwood and Grant will put a force of men at work at once in the development of the property.—Journal-Miner.

A mining deal of very great importance has recently been consummated by James Shirley, who is always on the lookout for properties which have merit in them. Some time since he investigated a property in Big Bug which has a shaft on it about eighty-five feet deep and which showed up good ore. He was particularly impressed, however, with the surface indications, and thought that he saw in the prospect the possibilities of being developed into a big property. The mine was being worked as a gold property, although the ore also contained copper. Mr. Shirley's experience in mining showed him that in reality it was a copper property, that ore predominating, although rich in gold. He secured a bond from the owners, and has just succeeded in closing a deal with E. B. Gage of the Congress mine, who will immediately start a force of men at work developing it. At the bottom of the shaft the ledge is fourteen feet wide, and there is quite a flow of water in it. So thoroughly is this water impregnated with copper that a shovel left there for a few days had been eaten away, and in its stead was a sheet of copper. The property is located within a very short distance of the new railroad to Big Bug, and in the near future a large and prosperous mining camp may be expected to be seen there, with the possibilities in the near future of a smelter. Mr. Shirley has always shown excellent judgment in his selection of mining properties, and where properly managed they have always turned out all right. The indications are that this one will prove no exception to the rule, and it has certainly fallen into good hands for its development.—Journal-Miner.

## WAKED UP ELSEWHERE.

Disorderly Tramps Sleep While Their Epitaph is Pronounced.

"There may be rougher, more villainous, and vindictive men than circus canvas men," said the press agent, "but in my sad young life experiences I have never known any. The canvas man, as you may know, is the functionary who rolls up the juggler's carpet and performs other menial tasks during the show. He puts up the tents and takes them down, and does all the heaviest and dirtiest work that has to be done around a circus. Our boss canvas man came up to me one morning after we had settled down on an Illinois town, and said:

## Wrong!

The tea-business was taken up by the wrong end—roasting tea way off there in Asia and letting it get stale on the way here!

Not Schilling's Best.

"'Heard anything from last night's stand?'"

"'No,' I said, 'why?'"

"'Nothing,' he answered, and went off grinning."

"The next morning in the next town he came around and asked the same sort of question:

"'Heard anything from Tuesday night's stand?'"

"He still refused to tell me what was behind the question. He asked the same question every day for ten days. On the eleventh day we crossed into Indiana. He came and sat down by me on the train just after we crossed the line."

"'I'll tell you about that now,' he said. I told him to go ahead."

"You remember that Thursday, before I got nervous," he said, "we had a mess with a gang of hobos who stole all the stuff out of the grub tents while we were in the show. Well, they laid out Johnny Kern so's he had to have his head sewed up that night, but they got away. The next night they turned up again. They'd followed us on the first freight. There were nine of them. They caught six of our boys in a card game out behind the horse tent, upset the barrel we were playing on and got some of the money. They knocked out Jim Coyle that night so bad we had to leave him behind in the hospital. But they all got away."

"The next night was Sunday, and we were traveling all day, and we thought we had shaken the hobos. But Monday night the same gang raided the grub tent just before the stuff was cooked. There wasn't any of us around, so nobody got hurt. But Johnny Kern, who had his head in a bandage yet from what they did to him on Thursday, he saw them going away and he followed them. They went back into the country most two miles from the show. By the time Johnny got back to the show it was after midnight."

"We was to stay over another day, so there was no packing going on. Johnny waked me up and told me what was going on. The two of us waked up six of the gang. We picked up a few tent mallets and a hatchet. It was as nice a walk as ever I took. The moon was shining down through the trees, and there was a soft, warm sort of a breeze coming up the road in our faces. Johnny took us up to a big barn out in a hay field. 'They're in there,' he says. We opened the door, and sure enough, there they were, eight of them, sleeping; laid out on the hay in one corner. There was a window or something up above, and the moon was shining down on the feet of them. They looked like they was having lovely dreams."

"Thee he stopped. 'Well,' I said, after awhile."

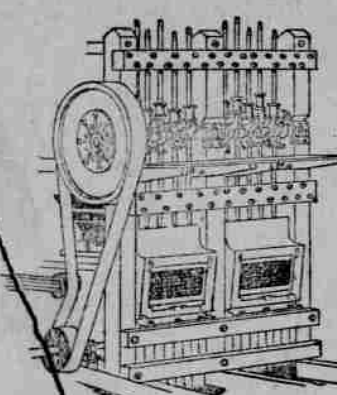
"'Well what?' he said."

"'Did you wake them up?' I asked."

"'Naw,' he said slowly, as he got up from the seat, 'they never waked up.'"

—New York Sun.

An art sale of interest took place at one of the large London stores recently when there were sold the collections of Joseph Addison, the essayist, and his wife, Charlotte, countess of Warwick.



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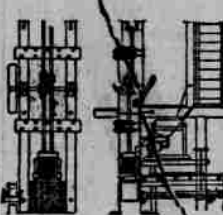
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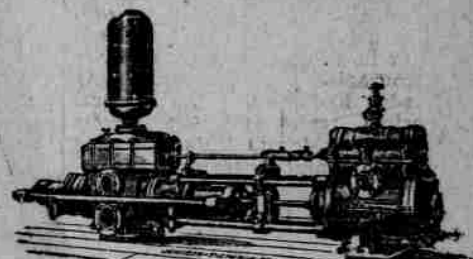
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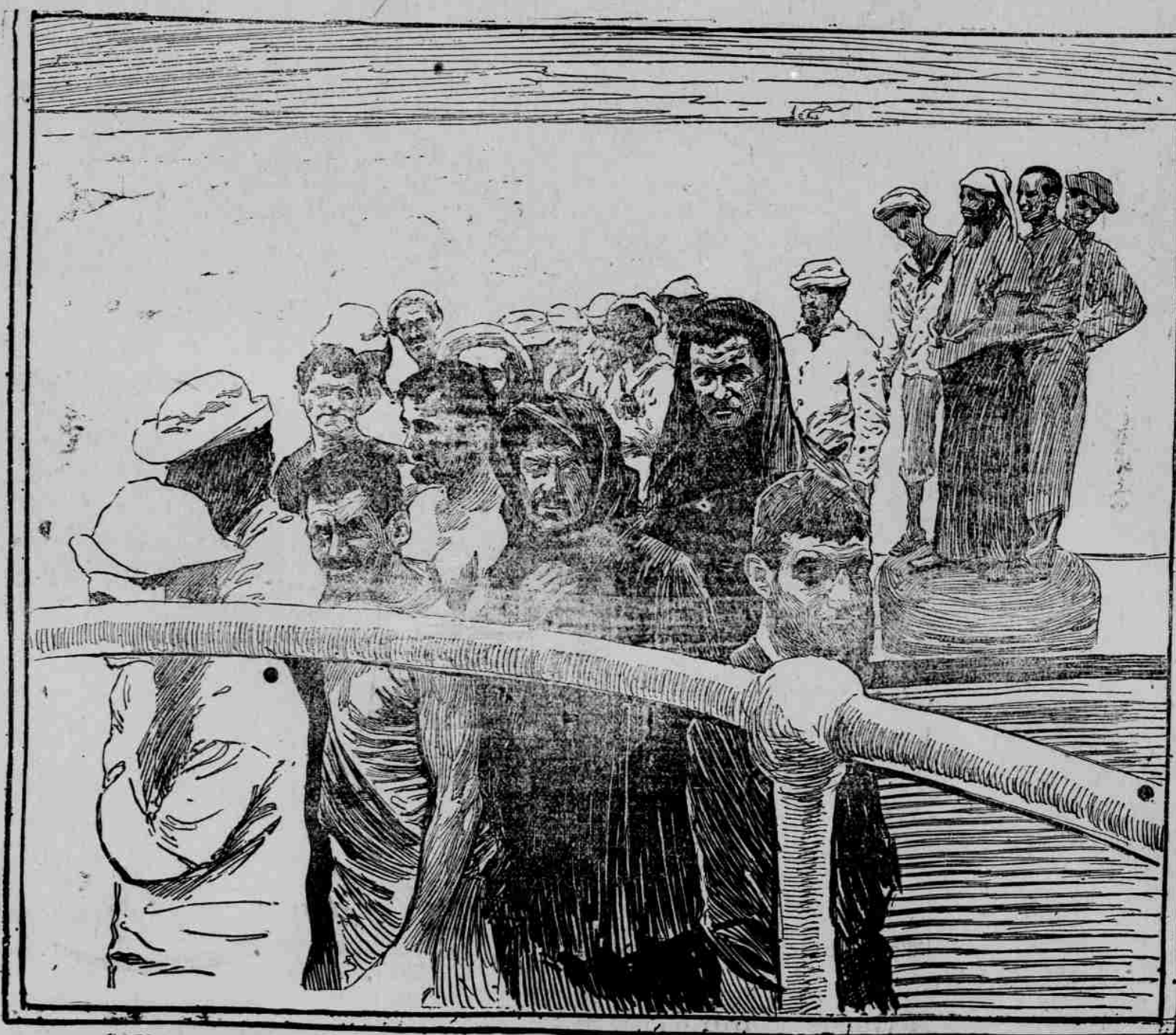
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